

In re Appln. of Houis et al.
Application No. 09/645,777

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1.-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A bellows arrangement according to claim ~~11~~ ~~18~~, in which the connector element is made of molded ~~moulded~~ thermoplastic material.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A flexible bellows arrangement ~~according to claim 10~~ comprising

a parison of blow-molded thermoplastic material comprising a wall defining an interior, and an opening in said wall into the interior, and

a connector element with a hollow passage therethrough communicating with said opening to enable a connection to be made to the interior through said wall, the connector element being of a hollow tubular form,

the connector element being secured in position by a portion of the material of the parison which has entered the hollow passage of the connector element to weld and seal the material of the parison to the material of the connector element and to form said opening during the blow-molding of the parison, wherein the parison bellows comprises an axis and the connector element comprises a first hollow tubular portion extending generally radially of the parison bellows and a second integral hollow tubular portion extending parallel to the axis of the parison bellows.

12. (Currently Amended) A flexible bellows arrangement comprising, in combination, first and second bellows arrangements, each said bellows arrangement comprising according to claim 18

a parison of blow-molded thermoplastic material comprising a wall defining an interior, and an opening in said wall into the interior, and

a connector element with a hollow passage therethrough communicating with said opening to enable a connection to be made to the interior through said wall,

the connector element being secured in position by a portion of the material of the parison which has entered the hollow passage of the connector element to weld and seal the material of the parison to the material of the connector element and to form said opening

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during the blow-molding of the parison, the interiors of the two bellows arrangements being connected together by means of their connector elements.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) A bellows arrangement comprising a first bellows arrangement in combination with a second bellows arrangement, the first and second bellows arrangements each comprising

a parison of blow-~~moulded~~ molded thermoplastic material comprising a wall defining an interior, and an opening in said wall into the interior, and

a connector element with a hollow passage therethrough communicating with said opening to enable a connection to be made to the interior through said wall,

the connector element being secured in position by a portion of the material of the parison which has entered the hollow passage of the connector element to weld and seal the material of the parison to the material of the connector element and to form said opening during the blow-~~moulding~~ molding of the parison, at least the connector element of the second bellows arrangement being made of molded thermoplastic material, in combination with a second bellows arrangement according to claim 9, the interiors of the two bellows arrangements being connected together by means of their connector elements.

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22. (Currently Amended) A bellows arrangement comprising a first bellows arrangement in combination with a second bellows arrangement, the first and second bellows arrangements comprising

a parison of blow-~~moulded~~ molded thermoplastic material comprising a wall defining an interior, and an opening in said wall into the interior, and

a connector element with a hollow passage therethrough communicating with said opening to enable a connection to be made to the interior through said wall,

the connector element being secured in position by a portion of the material of the parison which has entered the hollow passage of the connector element to weld and seal the material of the parison to the material of the connector element and to form said opening during the blow-~~moulding~~ molding of the parison,

at least the connector element of the second element being of a hollow tubular form, in combination with a second bellows arrangement according to claim 10, the interiors of the two bellows arrangements being connected together by means of their connector elements.

23. (Currently Amended) A bellows arrangement comprising a first bellows arrangement comprising

a parison of blow-~~moulded~~ molded thermoplastic material comprising a wall defining an interior, and an opening in said wall into the interior, and

a connector element with a hollow passage therethrough communicating with said opening to enable a connection to be made to the interior through said wall,

the connector element being secured in position by a portion of the material of the parison which has entered the hollow passage of the connector element to weld and seal the material of the parison to the material of the connector element and to form said opening during the blow-~~moulding~~ molding of the parison,

in combination with a second bellows arrangement according to claim 11, the interiors of the two bellows arrangements being connected together by means of their connector elements.

24. (Currently Amended) A bellows arrangement comprising a first bellows arrangement and a second bellows arrangement, the first and second bellows arrangements each comprising

a parison of blow-~~moulded~~ molded thermoplastic material comprising a wall defining an interior, and an opening in said wall into the interior, and

a connector element with a hollow passage therethrough communicating with said opening to enable a connection to be made to the interior through said wall,

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the connector element being secured in position by a portion of the material of the parison which has entered the hollow passage of the connector element to weld and seal the material of the parison to the material of the connector element and to form said opening during the blow-moulding molding of the parison,

~~in combination with a~~ wherein at least the connector element of the second bellows arrangement is of a hollow tubular form and made of molded thermoplastic material according to claim 19, the interiors of the two bellows arrangements being connected together by means of their connector elements.

25. (Currently Amended) A bellows arrangement comprising
a first bellows arrangement comprising
a parison of blow-moulded molded thermoplastic material comprising a wall defining an interior, and an opening in said wall into the interior, and
a connector element with a hollow passage therethrough communicating with said opening to enable a connection to be made to the interior through said wall,
the connector element being secured in position by a portion of the material of the parison which has entered the hollow passage of the connector element to weld and seal the material of the parison to the material of the connector element and to form said opening during the blow-moulding molding of the parison,
in combination with a second bellows arrangement according to claim 20, the interiors of the two bellows arrangements being connected together by means of their connector elements.